

welfare and future or how the friendships that developed during his tenure continued and grew and deepened over the years since he left.

There is one other aspect of Frank's service to the Senate as staff director of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee that should be mentioned. If Frank always put public service and the willingness to respond to calls to return to public service above the lures of the private sector, there was one passion that surmounted everything else and that was his love for his family. Frank met his wife Amy while he served on the Energy Committee, and anyone who ever met Frank understood that Amy and his children, from his first marriage and with Amy, were the center of his life.

Our hearts and thoughts in these times go out to Amy and Frank's children and to all their family and to those who were close to him. His presence remains with the institutions he served; and his humor, compassion, and commitment will continue to be a marker for not just our committee, but for public service generally. His family and multitude of friends lost a good and faithful man, but they all remain the richer for having known him for the many years, both in and out of government, that they shared with him.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THOS. MOSER CABINETMAKERS

• Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, in his famous essay titled "Courage," Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote that he most admired those "who can organize their wishes and thoughts in stone and wood and steel and brass." In our time, when so much is mass produced and temporary, we have a special regard for the craftsmen and women who turn the materials provided by nature into objects of beautiful form and lasting function.

I rise today to congratulate the craftsmen and women of Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers of Auburn, ME, as they celebrate the 40th anniversary of this remarkable company. With skill and creativity, they transform black cherry, maple, ash, and walnut into fine furniture that is recognized worldwide as the pinnacle of the woodworkers' art.

This story of success driven by the pursuit of excellence began in 1972, when Tom Moser left the secure life of a college professor to follow his dream to revive the craftsmanship of woodworkers of the past. With his wife Mary, they set up shop in an old Grange Hall in New Gloucester, ME.

They met the challenges faced by all entrepreneurs with determination. Soon, their sons joined them in the growing business. Today, 70 skilled men and women work in their modern woodshop in Auburn and another 50 in other aspects of the operation, includ-

ing showrooms in major American cities, from New York and Washington, DC, to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

When Tom and Mary Moser founded this company, they did more than revive quality woodworking—they were pioneers in Maine's thriving creative economy. From cutting-edge technology to the arts, these visionaries are moving our State forward, building new industries and new opportunities.

This segment of the creative economy truly defines Maine. The resurgence of furniture making, cabinetry, pottery, and textiles bring the past alive and remind us of the special quality of something made by hand in Maine. The talented designers and woodworkers of Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers create objects that bring pleasure today and will be treasured heirlooms for generations to come. I congratulate the Moser family and all their employees for 40 years of success.●

RECOGNIZING PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE

• Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Portland Community College in Portland, OR on its 50 years of delivering high-quality education. Portland Community College has consistently demonstrated its devotion to an accessible education for everyone, serving more than 1.3 million college-age residents in a five-county area in Northwest Oregon.

Simply put, the education offered at Portland Community College creates a pathway to the middle-class for so many Oregonians. Students of all ages and backgrounds rely upon this college to improve skills for either career or personal reasons, explore opportunities, complete a high school degree or GED, work towards a bachelor's degree, or complete a certificate or technical degree. Portland Community College's mission has always been to create a foundation of long term vitality by supporting a broad range of needs in northwest Oregon.

Fifty years of commitment to accessible life long learning opportunities has produced more than 1.3 million educated members of the Oregon community and our Nation—members who, thanks to PCC, are prepared to attain the American dream. To Preston Pulliams, the district president of Portland Community College, and to the faculty and students of PCC, congratulations on a half century of academic excellence.●

RECOGNIZING THE ALASKA SPORTS HALL OF FAME

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame. Since the body's inception in 2006 and its first class of inductees in 2007, the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame has educated Alaskans and visitors, honored and preserved memories in Alaskan sports, and pro-

moted a healthy youth population by providing activities that will inspire children to strive for success in their own lives. The Hall's mission is to teach, honor, and inspire.

Beyond that core mission, the Alaska Sports Hall of Fame has done much to promote the accomplishments of the world-class athletes in the great state of Alaska. The 23 Hall of Fame inductees through 2012 have stacked up tremendous accomplishments, but there is, perhaps above all else, a single thread that binds the inductees together: a love and respect for Alaska.

Dr. Bradford Washburn, without ever actually living in-State, was certainly an honorary Alaskan. He traversed the North Country in more than 70 trips and strapped himself into the open door of a low-flying plane for aerial photographic work of the great State of Alaska. The legendary "Huslia Husler," George Attla, was a ten-time Fur Rondy sled dog champion and motivated crowds that included a strong rivalry with Roland "Doc" Lombard. Carlos Boozer, born in Juneau, played for the Crimson Bears at Juneau-Douglas High School, compiling a 95-12 career record and winning back-to-back Class 4A State titles in 1997 and 1998, before moving on to be an NBA All-Star. Reggie Joule, the greatest practitioner of the blanket toss in the long history of the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, captured more than 30 medals in the 2-foot high kick, greased pole walk, arm pull, and other events, earning the title "Mr. Olympics."

The Alaska Sports Hall of Fame depicts an understanding that goes beyond the basic tenets of its own stated mission. It is a way to honor the Alaskan way of life and to depict Alaskan exceptionalism. Mark Schlereth, 2008 Alaska Sports Hall of Fame inductee and 3-time Super Bowl Champion, described the Alaskan bond as special and a true source of pride.

After the sweat, the injuries, the memories, the failures and accomplishments, the true value of sport goes far beyond the statues and medals. Sport brings friends and family together it can make teammates of complete strangers. It provides youth with positive role models, promotes healthy lifestyles, and teaches life skills.

The Alaska Sports Hall of Fame reminds us of the positive attributes of sport, but equally important is highlighting and respecting the Alaskan way of life. Events such as the Iditarod, the Great Alaska Shootout, and the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics showcase the great State of Alaska and who we are as a people.

There is so much to celebrate and commemorate in Alaska. The Alaska Sports Hall of Fame provides an opportunity to demonstrate excellence in athletic endeavors by exceptional Alaskans.●